

CONTINENTAL NEWS.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT "STELLA."

PARIS, Aug. 3.

The few days of intense heat that have so suddenly followed the cold and wet of this extraordinary summer have done great good to the crops. The vintage must necessarily be a partial failure, the hail which has so persistently attacked the vines being fatal to the grapes. It was feared that the hay-harvest would be completely lost, but the return of sunshine has enabled farmers to get in a good deal more than they had hoped for.

The persistent wet of the present summer, up to this time, rendered it impossible to turn and dry the grass between the constantly recurring storms. Mr. Duplessis consequently brought before the Academy, at a recent sitting of the Immortals, a method of proceeding which has been found to answer very well in regard to cereals, and which certain farmers have recently been trying with their hay, and with satisfactory results. In wet seasons the practice of the farmer is to put his cereals in sheaf as soon as they are ripe, — 1, collecting the produce of the land in small bundles; 2, placing them upright, bringing several of them together to support each other. It has been proved that cereals cut a little before they are ripe and treated thus, sheltered from the rain, ripen well, and that the weeds and grass mixed by chance with the grain in these sheaves, ripen also, and are no hindrance to the growth of the grain, clover, &c. The idea of trying this plan with grass, clover, &c., occurred to several farmers, and they have done so with full success. The sheaves of forage are composed of two arms of cut grass, lightly bound together with a wisp of the same, and weigh about a hundred lbs. They are placed together obliquely so as to form a clamp. The cost of this method of haymaking is less than that of the ordinary way, the latter costing 12 francs per 24 acres, the former costing only 7 francs. In spite of bad weather, the grass thus treated becomes transformed into perfect hay, with the usual aromatic colour. The outer layers are whitened a little by the sun and air, but, mixed with the rest of the hay, they in no way deteriorate from the ordinary appearance and quality of well-made hay.

From the great wheat-growing region of Orléans, as from all the rest of Europe, a similar jubilation is being uttered by the farmers, who are rejoicing and rejoicing with improved wonderfully with their few days of sunshine. If the weather remains fine, the crop will not fall much below the average. In some parts of Russia, the Government has acceded to the request of the farmers, and is allowing the soldiers to剽窃 in getting in the grain.

The importation of oranges and lemons into France is constantly increasing, the zone of cultivation of these fruits receding steadily southwards. This branch of French imports has increased fivefold since 1850. At present it amounts only to 3,042,022 Kilos (2,000 each); in 1857, it reached as high as 27,700,000 kilos. Algeria is steadily increasing its exports of oranges. In short, these annual imports into France, which were formerly set down at from 9 to 10 millions of francs, are now computed at from 9 to 10 millions of francs. A good many French vineyards, ruined by the phylloxera, are being planted with orange trees; but the climate of France is apparently becoming too cold and too unsteady to allow of the ripening of this fruit on a large scale. And now in addition to the long list of vegetable diseases that are bringing trouble to the farmers of *la belle France*, the Academy of Sciences has just informed of the appearance of a new malady which attacks the onion, transforming the bulb into a mass of black powder. All the new vegetable maladies, this latest visitation included, are believed to have been imported from America.

The question of the reception of ladies at *fêtes* given by numerously Amphionians has been receiving through ventilation in the columns of the Parisian journals, and it has been superabundantly shown that bachelor hosts can receive ladies with perfect propriety, with the aid of the simple expedient of getting a lady relative or friend to preside on the festive occasions to which the superior sex are invited. M. Gambetta, it is stated, wished his first reception to be wholly a political one, in honour of the day on which it was given, viz., the anniversary of the taking of the Bastille. He was fully intent to let himself right with his lady friends by giving several splendid entertainments which could be graced by their presence, on the part of the fashionable world from its summer watering-place.

M. Grevy is said to have exclaimed, on leaving the residence of the President of the Lower Chamber (after the splendid *fête* given by the latter on the 14th of July), "M. Gambetta has entertained me as Fouques entertained Louis XIV!" A somewhat imprudent remark, as the discontented classes may not unreasonably inquire whether it was worth while to make a new revolution only to have the old regime continued by new men.

M. Grevy and his daughter, accompanied by General Pitra, the new and unpopular Prefect of Police, and the Under-Secretary of State of the Fine Arts Department, has been visiting the Théâtre Français to inspect the splendid new ceiling, the painting of which has just been finished by M. Mazzocchi, to whom has been intrusted the restoration of the interior of this great hall of the kingdom of "All the Spains." According to recent statistics, there are, in that magnificent country, 8600 deaf mutes and 17,370 blind people. The provinces in which the former are in the largest proportion are Oviedo, Lugo, Leon, Lerida, Orense, and Gerona; while the blind predominate in Valencia, Cardova, Murcia, Seville, Cadiz, Almeria, Alicante, Malaga, Corunna, and Grenada.

The third meeting of the Congress of Teachers of the Blind was held in Berlin last Sunday, in the hall used for the sittings of the Lower House of the German Parliament. It was attended by representatives of England, France, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. Herr Von Puttkamer, the recently-appointed Minister of Public Worship, welcomed the members of the Congress in the name of the Prussian Government. Director Meyers, of Amsterdam, thanked the Minister in the name of the meeting for his presence, and for the interest manifested in the meeting by the Prussian and German Governments.

King Humbert, who has written a touching letter to the Empress Eugenie, asking, as a favour

to her will esteem most highly, for some moments of her heroic son, has a chivalrous admiration of Garibaldi, who has just passed through Rome to go to Civita Vecchia, en route for Calabria, in a sailing carriage sent to Alfonso for convenience. He looked back to him with a smile, showing his deep, sufficingly frank and enterprising and extra-moral, anxious as to the issue of his divorce case, which is about to be decided in the Court of Appeal. The King, while the trial was pending, happened to exclaim, "I do hope he will succeed poor dear old fellow!" Some officious body carried the exclamation to the judges as they were deliberating, adding that the King desired that they should pronounce a favourable verdict, whereupon one of the Judges, much offended, wrote to the King, saying that he could not bring himself to believe that his Majesty intended to indicate the decision of the Judges, and that rather than submit to prison, he should prefer to resign. The King, half amused, half indignant, himself related the incident to his Ministers, asking whether even a constitutional King might not have and express a "hope" or "desire?" "The Judge is honest and courageous," added his Italian Majesty, "but I am sorry that any one should suppose he is capable of an unconstitutional act." Before his departure, Garibaldi was visited by Signor Cairelli, who obtained from him a promise to Sydney, and then by mail to Melbourne at a cost of £100, to be paid in gold, and to be sent to him in Australia, to be used for the payment of station supplies, if we do not shut South Australia out by protection, or by the imposition of heavy freight, she will not only continue to supply the whole Darling, but those who would be afraid to travel the interior will do a great deal towards developing the resources of the interior, and improving the trade of the city. Let me here state that I am not opposed to railway extension on the contrary, I am in favour of building the line as far as can be, but I am opposed to a ruthless waste of public money, and to the contemplated extension of the line beyond agricultural areas with slaves; but that he had many drawbacks, and he set aside and removed these as far as possible, forgetting that the line is extremely dangerous, and that his run required a half dozen drivers to insure against drought, and to render it more productive. Time went on, and a drought set in, and this quarter was particularly deprived of his year's income, but he remained in the station when during a few good seasons, made money, and decided to go to town to live. 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Funerals.

Business Cards.

FRIENDS OF MR. CLARKE WHITE, respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Margaret; to move from his residence, Botany-street, Waterloo, TO-MORROW (Tuesday) MORNING, at quarter-past two o'clock, to the Necropolis; C. KINSELLA and SONS, George-street, opposite the Christ Church, and Oxford-street, near Crown-st.

FRIENDS OF MR. JOHN JOHNSON are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Margaret Johnson; to move from his residence, Durban-street, Waterloo, next Hope-work, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, at half-past 1 o'clock, for the Necropolis; J. and G. SHIVING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South; and 120, Oxford-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. GEORGE WOOD are respectfully invited to attend his Funeral; to move from his late residence, Empire Hotel, Sussex-street North, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, 30th instant, at a quarter to 2 o'clock, to the Necropolis.

FRIENDS OF MR. GEORGE WADLEY are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his deceased BROTHER-IN-LAW, Mr. George Wood; to move from his late residence, Empire Hotel, Sussex-street North, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, 30th instant, at a quarter to 2 o'clock, to the Necropolis.

FRIENDS OF MR. JAMES MOORE are respectfully invited to attend his Funeral; to move from his late residence, Dick-street, off Abercrombie-street, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, at quarter-past 2 o'clock, to the Necropolis; C. KINSELLA and SONS, 711, Oxford-street; and 137, George-street, Oxford-street, near Crown-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. JAMES HENRY are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved BROTHER-IN-LAW, Mr. James Moore; to move from his late residence, Dick-street, off Abercrombie-street, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, at quarter-past 2 o'clock, to the Necropolis; C. KINSELLA and SONS, 711, Oxford-street; and 137, George-street, Oxford-street, near Crown-street.

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL ALBERT LODGE, L. O. F. M. U., together with the members of various Lodges of the Sydney district, are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late Brother, James Moore; to move from his late residence, Dick-street, off Abercrombie-street, THIS Monday AFTERNOON, at quarter-past 2 o'clock, to the Necropolis; C. KINSELLA and SONS, 711, Oxford-street; and 137, George-street, Oxford-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. JOHN DUNDON, Son, are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Joanna; to move from his late residence, the Racing Club Hotel, Oxford-street, TO-MORROW (Tuesday) AFTERNOON, at half-past 2 o'clock, for the Catholic Cemetery, Petersham; J. and G. SHIVING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South, and 120, Oxford-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. PATRICK DUNDON, Jun., are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved MOTHER, Joanna Dundon; to move from her late residence, the Racing Club Hotel, Oxford-street, TO-MORROW (Tuesday) AFTERNOON, at half-past 2 o'clock, for the Catholic Cemetery, Petersham; J. and G. SHIVING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South, and 120, Oxford-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. ROBERT SHELTON are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his beloved MOTHER; to move from her late residence, Seton Cottage, Morton-street, Seton Estate, Balmain, THIS AFTERNOON, at a quarter before 3 o'clock, to Balmain Cemetery, THOMAS, Undertaker, 141, York-street.

FRIENDS OF MR. STEPHEN SHELTON are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his dearly beloved WIFE; to move from his residence, Seton Cottage, Morton-street, Seton Estate, Balmain, THIS AFTERNOON, at a quarter before 3 o'clock, to Balmain Cemetery, THOMAS, Undertaker, 141, York-street.

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H. W. PRENTY, Hon. Secs. FRANK BURKE, AN ELECTOR.

TO THE ELECTORS OF DENISON WARD. MR. JOHN MEERS (Daniel O'Connor's nominee) is the man. He will serve our purpose.

AN ELECTOR.

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